

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany/Satellites/China

DATE DISTR. 18 September 1953

**SUBJECT** Foreigners Visiting Werk HF (OSW), Berlin

NO. OF PAGES 3

25X1

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)

FACE  
REQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFO. November 1952 to March 1953

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. During the period from November 1952 to January 1953, Soviet visitors were repeatedly seen in the Werk HF in Berlin-Oberschoeneweide, inspecting the factory installation in groups of two or three. In mid-December 1952, a Soviet commission discussed the poor quality of the P 50 type tube with the management of the works.
2. In February and March 1953, two Soviet inspection officials appointed to the works were working as previously. Their superior was with the DIA (Deutscher Innen- und Aussenhandel) (German Foreign and Inland Trade concern). The two officials were very guarded in their statements and refrained from making decisions. In January 1953, several Soviet officials worked in the experimental station, apparently as inspection or checking engineers.  
November
3. In early 1952, Werk HF in Berlin-Oberschoeneweide was visited by three Chinese engineers who had been ordered to inspect an electronic microscope and to obtain information on the development work and production of the works. It was agreed that an assembling group consisting of an engineer and a mechanic was to go to China to put the electronic microscope into operation. This trip had not started as of late April, as Baise (fnu), head of the department, had been dismissed. The assembling group had previously been sent to Budapest and Warsaw.
4. A delegation of three Chinese headed by Minister Wang who allegedly had good technical knowledge negotiated on the delivery of tubes in November and December 1952. The Chinese were especially interested in tubes for radio detecting and ranging sets with wave ranges of 3, 10, and 50 cm. They informed the works what the demand for such tubes would be during the period from 1953 to 1957, requested an offer, and stated that they would contact tube producing factories of other People's Democracies in case of refusal. In late November, the Chinese received two specimens each of the 6AL5, 6AG5, and 6AK5 type tubes. In January, it had not yet been determined which tube types were to be delivered to China. The delegation showed little interest in instruments.
5. The Chinese delegation also visited the Keramische Werke Hesch-Kahla in Hermsdorf for about four weeks. Source learned from an engineer of these works that there the delegation procured technical documents for a factory for technical ceramics to be erected in China and negotiated for long term employment of specialists for China.

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6. In early May 1953, 2 Czechoslovak engineers, one of them named Fiala (fnu), who worked in the immediate development section of the development department of the Tesla concern visited the works. The visit which was known only to some leading engineers of the works, was made as part of the scientific-technical cooperation between Czechoslovakia and East Germany and was scheduled to be repaid by German engineers. The visitors were shown over the whole experimental station in the course of eight days. They immediately ordered the frequency spectrum analyzer, field strength meters of all five types for all frequencies, the ring measuring wire for decimetric waves, and S T V 280/40 and 280/80 type stabilizers. They stated that they had to buy such stabilizers in West Germany. One Czech engineer was especially interested in the whole measuring technique and tube technology in the field of decimetric waves and stated in a final conference that Kovar sheets, thorium wolframite wires, and all other raw materials for tubes were produced in Czechoslovakia.

7. Source learned from the visitors that the Tesla development department was organized into five development sections including a wire (telephony) section; a communication (transmitter and receiver sets) section; decimetric waves section; tubes section; and crystal, detector, and transistor section. Professor Espe (fnu), a German, worked in one of these institutes without having Czechoslovak nationality. Source also learned that nearly all technical information required was sent from the USSR, that raw material deliveries from the USSR were scarce. The visitors were astonished at the high salaries of German engineers and technicians and stated that in Czechoslovakia, salaries averaged respectively 14,000, 9,000, and 6,000 Kcs. for a plant or institute manager, a graduated engineer, and a good mechanic. The purchasing power of 100 Kcs. equalled about 7 eastmarks.

8. In January 1953, the works were visited by a delegation of Hungarian engineers including Engineer Remer (fnu), a glass expert who spoke good German and was head of the delegation, a chemist, and two other engineers. The Hungarian engineers who were employees of the Tungsram Firm in Budapest were transmitter tube specialists and conferred especially with Dr. Klang (fnu) of the technological department on the development and production of transmitter and special tubes. Source occasionally learned from these Hungarian visitors that Tungsram produced transmitter tubes by processes which were not up to the newest standard of engineering, as, for instance no thorium but wolframite cathodes and copper glass compounds were used while Kovar and its use were unknown. Only transmitter tubes of the simplest types of an output up to 20 k.W., rectifier tubes, and thyristors were produced. The labor force of 600 persons included 120 technical employees. In connection with this visit, two German engineers working in the tube production and tube development were scheduled to visit Tungsram allegedly in order to advise the Hungarians on the modernization and the adaption of new techniques and materials for the transmitter tube production.

9. The Hungarian delegation inspected all production plants and was informed on the organizational structure. Engineer Remer (fnu) stated that Tungsram had no wire difficulties as Hungary had two of the few European wolframite and molybdenum specialists. Previously, the delegation had visited Funkwerk Erfurt and Roehrenwerk Neuhaus.

- 25X1 1. ☐ Comment. For a tabulation of the demand for tubes quoted by the Chinese delegation, see Annex.
- 25X1 2. ☐ Comment. Dr. Ing. Werner Espe has been previously reported as adviser of the Tesla development department.
- 25X1 3. ☐ Comment. The spelling of the name of the Hungarian engineer Remer or Ermer could not be determined. The engineer possibly was engineer Arpad Elmer who was mentioned as manager of the radio tube producing department in a report in 1949.

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Annex to

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Requirements for Tubes quoted by a Chinese Delegation Visiting Werk HF

| Tube Types                         | 1953                          | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
|                                    | Demand in<br>(in 1,000 units) |      |      |      |      |
| 6 AK 5                             | 3                             | 5    | 15   | 20   | 20   |
| <u>Impulse transmitter triodes</u> |                               |      |      |      |      |
| for outputs of 10, 60, 150...      |                               |      |      |      |      |
| 250 k.W., impulse frequency        |                               |      |      |      |      |
| 500 c.p.s., impulse period         |                               |      |      |      |      |
| of 2 s.                            | 1                             | 2    | 5    | 5    | 5    |
| <u>Magnetrons for 100 cm</u>       |                               |      |      |      |      |
| and output of 120 and 250 k.W.,    |                               |      |      |      |      |
| impulse frequency 1,700 c.p.s.,    |                               |      |      |      |      |
| impulse period of 1 s.             | -                             | 0,3  | 0,5  | 4    | 4    |
| <u>Magnetrons for 3 cm</u>         |                               |      |      |      |      |
| and output of 10 and 60 k.W.,      |                               |      |      |      |      |
| impulse frequency 500 c.p.s.,      |                               |      |      |      |      |
| impulse period 1 s.                | -                             | 0,3  | 0,3  | 4    | 4    |
| <u>Hydrogen thyratrons</u>         |                               |      |      |      |      |
|                                    | 1                             | 1,5  | 3    | 3    | 3    |
| <u>Cathode ray tubes</u>           |                               |      |      |      |      |
| Type not yet determined            | 1                             | 2    | 5    | 5    | 5    |
| <u>Klystrons</u>                   |                               |      |      |      |      |
| Type 723 A and 723 B               | Number of units is unknown    |      |      |      |      |

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